

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE: [REDACTED]

1. In November 1952 a large number of employees of the North Korean Ministry of Railroads who had been laid off because of the idleness of many railway lines were working on farms controlled by the Ministry. The Ministry operated five farms and a managing office which were in the following places:¹
 - a. The managing office was in a former church at BS-368978 in Yongdō-myeon (N 37-50, E 126-01) (BS-3791). The following personnel were assigned to this office: one superintendent, eleven clerks, six tractor drivers, and twenty North Korean Army guards. The farm equipment included six tractors and one hulling machine. The tractors were assigned wherever needed and were kept until the work was finished.
 - b. The first branch farm, with 40 employees, was at BS-391973 in Yongdō-myeon.
 - c. The second branch farm, with 60 employees, was at BS-397968 in Yongdō-myeon.
 - d. The third branch farm, with 100 employees, was at YB-625975 near Wōnu (N 37-54, E 125-59) (YB-6297).
 - e. The fourth branch farm, with 50 employees, was at YB-605932, two kilometers east of Chung-dong (N 37-52, E 125-57) (YB-5893).
 - f. The fifth branch farm, with 80 employees, was near Chung-dong (N 37-52, E 125-57) (YB-5893).
2. As the farms were all near the coastline, North Korean Army guards were stationed in the area to keep the employees from deserting. The average working day was 12 hours; during the farming season the working day was 14 hours. Approximately 60 percent of the employees were women and 5 percent were boys between the ages of 13 and 17. About 20 percent of the employees had their families with them. Each employee was allotted 250 grams of rice and 350 grams of other grains per day, and received 700 or 800 North Korean won per month. They wore North Korean Army uniforms and carried identification cards which were good only on the farm.

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